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IN THE CLAIMS:

1. **(Currently Amended)** An arrangement comprising a network adapted to allow systems to connect to the network via edge routers of the network (11-15), and further adapted to assign at least some of said systems to specified VPNs, which network includes collection of modules that includes one or more devices that operate to not enable ~~operates to insure that~~ systems A and B of said systems that are each assigned to one or more VPNs but which have no commonly assigned VPN cannot establish a connection to communicate with each other, characterized by the improvement comprising:

a controller (110-200) that (1) detects an identified application, executed in an element of said arrangement, which calls for communication between system A and system B, and (2) authorizes such communication when said identified application is included in a set of one or more allowed applications, by directing said collection of elements to modify itself to enable said establishing a connection ~~communication~~ between system A and system B.

2. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said element of said arrangement is system A

3. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said element of said arrangement is system B.

4. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said collection of modules comprises said edge routers.

5. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said collection of modules comprises VPN routing and forwarding tables, one within each of said edge routers.

6. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said network is an MPLS network.

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7. **(Currently Amended)** The arrangement of claim 6 where said collection of modules comprises VPN routing and forwarding tables, one within each of edge routers of said network, and said controller directs an edge router of said edge routers through which system A is connected to said network to modify its routing and forwarding table, and directs an edge router of said edge routers through which system B is connected to said network to modify its routing and forwarding table.

8. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said identified application is voice over IP and voice over IP is one of said allowed applications.

9. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said identified application is video over IP and video over IP is one of said allowed applications.

10. **(Previously Presented)** The arrangement of claim 1 where said controller comprises a route server and a call control element.

11. **(Currently Amended)** The method of claim 21 where the step of directing said collection of modules to allow said communication comprises: ~~A method executed in an arrangement including a network that supports assigning systems to specified VPNs, which systems connect to edge routers of the network, which network includes collection, comprising one or more devices, that operates to insure that systems A and B of said systems that are each assigned to one or more VPNs but which have no commonly assigned VPN cannot communicate with each other, comprising the steps of:~~
~~—receiving a message from an application of a type for which inter-VPN communication is allowed, indicating a desire to establish communication between said systems A and B;~~

directing said collection of modules to install a modification having whose effect is to allow communication between said systems A and B; and

directing said collection of modules to remove said modification at a later time to reinstate prohibition against communication between said systems A and B.

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12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 where said application is voice over Internet or video over Internet.

13. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 12 where said directing said collection of modules to remove said modification occurs substantially contemporaneously with termination of said voice over Internet or video over Internet communication.

14. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 where said directing said collection of modules to install a modification comprises the steps of:

installing a first entry \times in a table of an element ~~that~~ of said collection of modules that is charged with blocking traffic so that that no traffic is carried from[[,]] system A ~~from to~~ a system that is assigned to a VPN to which system A is not assigned, which entry nullifies said blocking relative to system B, and

installing a second entry \forall in a table of an element ~~that~~ of said collection of modules that is charged with blocking traffic so that that no traffic is carried from[[,]] system B from a system that is assigned to a VPN to which system B is not assigned, which entry nullifies said blocking relative to system A.

15. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 14 where
the first entry \times includes a criterion that nullifies said blocking only relative to traffic pertaining to said application, and

the second entry \times includes a criterion that nullifies said blocking only relative to traffic pertaining to said application.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 where said collection of modules is said edge routers of the network.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 11 where said directing said collection of modules to install a modification comprises a step of installing a entry in a

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VPN route and forward (VRF) table that is associated with edge router A of said edge routes through which said system A is coupled to said network, and installing an entry in a VRF table that is associated with edge router B of said edge routes through which said system B is coupled to said network.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 17 where said entry that is installed in said VRF associated with said edge router A comprises an indication that system B belongs to a VPN to which system A belongs, and said entry that is installed in said VRF associated with said edge router B comprises an indication that system A belongs to a VPN to which system B belongs.

19. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 where said entry that is installed in said VRF associated with said edge router A further comprises a route indication for reaching system B, and said entry that is installed in said VRF associated with said edge router B further comprises a route indication for reaching system A.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 18 where said entry that is installed in said VRF associated with said edge router A further comprises a route criterion for limiting traffic that is destined to system B solely to traffic that pertains to said application.

21. (Currently Amended) A method executed in an arrangement including a network that supports assigning systems to specified VPNs, which systems connect to edge routers of the network, which network includes collection of modules, comprising one or more devices, that operates to insure that systems A and B of said systems that are each assigned to one or more VPNs but which have no commonly assigned VPN ~~cannot~~ are disallowed to communicate with each other, characterized by comprising the steps of:

receiving a message (304) ~~from a~~ indicating a desire to establish communication between said systems A and B pursuant to an identified application;

determining whether to authorize said communication; and

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when said step of determining permits concludes that such communication ought to be permitted, directing (313, 314) said collection of modules to allow said communication.